

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 23rd June 1906.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Matcen* [Calcutta] of the 15th June has the following on the understanding between England and Russia regarding their respective spheres of

Persian politics.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABLUL MATHEN,
June 15th, 1906.

influence in Persia:—

To us, he who points out to you the thorns on your path is your real well-wisher.

O idle Persian people, beware, since a blazing simoom fatal to you has begun to blow from the north, while an overwhelming flood is fast approaching your country from the south. By strategical means they will slowly destroy your political existence. These two mighty rivals, in spite of their differences in locality, nationality, manners and customs, are entering into an alliance with a view to put an end to your national and social existence. We very well remember that when for the first time we objected to such an alliance, many of our contemporaries, including those of Persia, made a laughing-stock of us, characterizing our statements as the expressions of one who was dreaming. The Persian statesmen being misled by the sweet swaggery of the rival powers, as represented by their respective ambassadors, declared on the authority of the press of the two countries that they meant nothing but good to Persia. But now an Anglo-Russian treaty with respect to Persia is a common topic of discussion in the English and the Russian press. Although we know that some Persians who prefer their selfish and transitory interest to the national cause would call us traitors to our country and others *kafirs*; still we will pay no heed to them, because we know that he who undertakes to do good to his country and his nation against the popular feeling has to face many evils. But there will come a day when the rising generation will better appreciate our services.

[Here follows the substance of an article in an English paper and of another in a Russian journal on the advantages of an Anglo-Russian alliance.]

2. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 18th June does not understand why the Government of India, since the conclusion of the treaty between England and China regarding Tibet, has not allowed Englishmen to make tours through that country, although the treaty by an additional clause provides for such tours.

Travelling in Tibet.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 18th, 1906.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

3. The *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 7th June gives a translation of the correspondence published in the *Statesman* in connection with the Musalman riot in Mymensingh, laying stress upon the fact that since the Musalmans of Iswarganj did not take part in the *swadeshi* movement with the Hindus, the local Hindus began to oppress them in various ways. When they went to hold a mass meeting to protest against the Hindu oppression, the Hindu zamindars, with the help of the local police who are mostly Hindus, dispersed the meeting, making many arrests on the charge of forming unlawful assemblies with the object of looting the Hindus.

The Mymensingh riot.

AL PUNCH,
June 7th, 1906.

4. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 12th June writes that a class of Maulvis have appeared in different parts of Mymensingh, who are going about making speeches exciting the Musalmans against the Hindus. Who can say whether there is not some unseen wire-pulling going on behind this appearance of theirs?

Maulvis preaching strife between Hindus and Musalmans.

CHARUMIHIR,
June 12th, 1906.

5. The same paper writes that it has learnt from inquiries that the facts about Inspector Babu Sarat Sasi Dutt were not quite as they were stated by the correspondent in its issue of the 8th *Jaistha* last [See Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 2nd June, paragraph 3]. Sarat Sasi Babu said or did nothing against the Hindu religion.

A contradiction.

CHARUMIHIR.

6. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 15th June says that Hem Babu, the son of the owner of the 14-pie share of the zamindari of Hatia and Alampur within the Kushtia subdivision of the Nadia district, is reported to be committing great oppression on

Complaints against a zamindar.

SOLTAN,
June 15th, 1906.

his tenants. Recently one Krishnalal Swarnakar of the Hatia village was beaten and fined Rs. 30 for having demanded payment of a sum of money which the zamindar's *gomasta* owed him. A man named Manaulla of the same village has been fined Rs. 10 because he went one night to a neighbour's house with a lantern in his hand. An inhabitant of the Baidyanathpur village also has been fined Rs. 30. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

ARUN,
June 15th, 1906.

7. The *Arun* [Brahmanbaria] of the 15th June speaks of the depredations committed by the lawless characters of Sarail and its neighbouring villages on the dealers in rice on the Boalia *khal* near Chunta and Ajabpur. Boats laden with rice are being taken possession of by fraud or force and are not being paid for at all, or only at insufficient prices. Lawlessness is also reported to have been long prevailing at Betbaria.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 15th, 1906.

8. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 15th June writes that as in Malda and Madaripur, so in Noakhali also a notice has been issued by the District Superintendent of Police. All these notices are uniform in spirit, although they differ somewhat in language. The officials in Eastern Bengal have disregarded Mr. Morley's instructions to them to act in a sympathetic spirit towards the people. The people of Bengal are prepared to submit to all their oppressions and God has given them the strength to do so.

A notice by the District Superintendent of Police, Noakhali.

The notice in question as quoted runs as follows:—

"Whereas it appears that it is the intention of certain persons to collect assembly and to form processions in the public thoroughfares of this town with a view to the promotion of the sale of Indian manufactures or sing national songs or for any other purpose, and whereas it appears to the District Magistrate that such assembly or processions are likely, if uncontrolled, to cause a breach of the peace, it is hereby ordered under section 30 (2) of Act V of 1861 that no such assembly shall be collected or procession formed, unless a license shall have previously been obtained from the District Superintendent of Police. Any contravention of this order or breach of the conditions of any license issued under this notice will be prosecuted under the provisions of section 32 of Act V of 1861 or section 188, Indian Penal Code.

In commenting on it, the writer observes that the words "certain" and "or for any other purpose" are too vague in meaning, and that the substitution of "any such" for "any other" would make the meaning clearer. The comment concludes with the suggestion that the looseness and intricacy of the language of the notice is intentional, the notice being intended merely to furnish a pretext for punishing a number of specially selected persons.

BIRBHUM VARTA,
June 16th, 1906.

9. The *Birbhum Varta* [Birbhum] of the 16th June mentions a case in which the president of a certain union in the Suri thana, as soon as he assumed office, requested the daffadar subordinate to him to collect for him a *salaami* of two rupees from each of the 13 or 14 chaukidars subordinate to him. When the chaukidars protested that they had no money to pay, he made an advance to them of the money aforesaid out of his own pocket, and then took them back, as repayment of a loan. The daffadar has been reported against for not having assisted him in this matter. A chaukidar, who also was reported against for late attendance, alleged that he had given to the president a bribe of one anna.

10. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 17th June says that there is a great consternation in Bankipur on account of the arrest of Babu Janak Dhari Lalji, Vice-Chairman of the Dinapore Municipality, by a Muhammadan Police Sub-Inspector.

The authorities, however, should keep a sharp eye on the police, as the latter is said to have a long-standing quarrel with the accused.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 18th, 1906.

11. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th June publishes a letter as follows:—

Serious allegations against Babu Harinath Banerji, Inspector of the Government Railway Police at Howrah.

A few days ago reference was made in your well-known paper to the acceptance of bribes from the *garhwans* (drivers) at Howrah by the local Railway Police. I have something to say myself in that matter, for I was head-constable at the Howrah Railway Police thana for a long time. I think it necessary publicly to ventilate in the press the inhuman oppression that I have

seen committed upon the *garhwans* at Howrah. I give you permission to make my name, etc., public should that be necessary. I am not at all afraid or reluctant to do so. I wish to see the guilty punished, and it is my earnest wish that public interests may be served.

Those who have been to Howrah to travel thence by rail, as well as those who have passed through Howrah to Calcutta or other places, may all have seen that as soon as a carriage is entered into or alighted from by an occupant, the constable of the beat or his nominee takes an anna from the driver of the carriage at the rate of 2 pice for the fare taken up and 2 pice more for the fare set down. Let the reader think of the large number of passengers who arrive at and depart from Howrah every day in carriages, and then judge of the amount of money which is collected in the foregoing manner in every beat. All the money so raised is thrown together, and a constable of the name of Ram Barai Misser every week collects two rupees from each constable and hands it over at Inspector Harinath Banerji's dwelling-house at night. All the truth about this matter will come out if the authorities make private inquiries. The reader will be astonished to hear that from this arrangement the Inspector Babu makes a monthly income of six hundred rupees. In addition he is paid at the rate of two rupees from the Railway Parcels Office. Mr. Doneden (?), the senior Station Master at Howrah, is prepared to prove this.

Then as to fish. Every day the biggest fish selected from all the number that arrive at Howrah by rail is sent to the Inspector Babu's house by a coolie (*mootia*). If necessary, the name and number of this coolie may be produced. Lately a criminal case had almost arisen in this connexion. A constable named Mukunda Singh had selected a very big fish for the Inspector Babu, but the fish-wife would part with only a small fish. The dispute between the two ended in an assault. At last when a suit was filed over this affair, the Inspector scenting serious danger, tore out the page in his diary concerned, and got a completely separate diary prepared by a favourite head-constable of his, named Durga Sankar, and finally reported on the case as a false one. If secret inquiries be made of Babu Basanta Lal Singha, Senior Sub-Inspector at Khararpur, the truth of this affair will become known. Why was the case reported as a false one when the plaintiff was prepared to prove her case by witnesses?

The Railway Company supplies six or seven cases of kerosene oil for use at the Howrah Railway Police thana. Of these six or seven cases, two or three cases are taken to the house of the Inspector and of a favourite head-constable of his, named Jagannath Mukerji. The truth of this may be known from inquiries made of the Sub-Inspectors at the thana.

For what I have written to-day, I challenge Harinath Babu, if he has the courage to do so, to bring a defamation suit against me. I shall make public in open court deeper mysteries about his doings. I conclude with the prayer that Mr. Knyvett, our worthy Inspector-General, will make a sifting inquiry into these complaints.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

12. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 14th June refers to a rumour that Government is considering a proposal to keep the Munsif who is now stationed at Cox's Bazar at that station only for six months in the year, and to utilise his services for the other six months of the year at Satkania, and then goes on to state the following considerations against the acceptance of this proposal by Government:—

Jyoti,
June 14th, 1906.

(1) Means of communication are so defective in the Cox's Bazar subdivision and education is so backward among the people there, that they do not resort to litigation except on the gravest provocation. If under these circumstances the Munsif's court at the place is kept closed for six months in the year, it would amount to a virtual denial of justice to suitors.

(2) The average income for the past three years from court-fees from this court has been Rs. 16,000 a year, while the cost of upkeep of the court and its establishment is less than Rs. 5,000.

(3) The present Munsif may not appear to have adequate work, but that is because he is in the habit of dismissing cases without granting the parties sufficient adjournments, considering the distance and the inaccessible nature of the country to be traversed.

(4) If the work of the Munsif is really considered inadequate, the old practice may be reverted to of appointing him *ex-officio* Deputy Magistrate, to try criminal cases during those months of the year when the Subdivisional Officer is away from the headquarters station on tour.

KHULNAVASI,
June 16th, 1906.

13. The *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 16th June accuses the Sub-Registrar of Paikgacha of not registering, and that with set purpose, more than a certain number of documents every day, which number he considers enough for a day's work, regardless of the number which may be actually presented to him for the purpose.

HOWRAH HITAISHI,
June 16th, 1906.

The Special Sub-Registrar of Howrah.

14. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 16th June makes the following allegations in connexion with the Special Sub-Registrar of Howrah and his office:—

(1) One Abdul Hosain of Mohiari, a man who had been a *daftri* at the Registration office, and who had lost his appointment through having incurred the present Special Sub-Registrar's displeasure, put in, on the 23rd November 1901, a petition to the then District Magistrate, alleging that the Special Sub-Registrar had made out in his name on two different occasions, two bills amounting in all to Rs. 16 for the purchase of a box. The money had been drawn out, but no box had been purchased. When the Magistrate called for a note on the petition, the matter was somehow hushed up. The *daftri* sent in a second petition, but that also received no attention. He fears lest he should be held responsible for the money thus drawn.

(2) Sanction was got by the Special Sub-Registrar to an outlay of Rs. 225, for the removal of three racks (at the rate of Rs. 75 for each) from the old record-room to the new one. A contractor named P. N. Nandi, who claimed to have effected the removal of all the three racks, was accordingly allowed to draw out the entire sum of Rs. 225 in the months of November and December 1900. But as a matter of fact, not all the three racks were removed. At that time there were three and not more than three racks at the Howrah Registration office, and if they had been all removed, then which rack was it, sanction to the expense of removing which was obtained subsequently on 12th March 1902? Whence comes this rack if all the three were then removed elsewhere? Reliable information has been received that the old rack remains in the old record-room and that the new record-room contains only two of the old racks.

BIRBHUM HITAISHI
June 18th, 1906.

15. The *Birbhum Hitaishi* [Birbhum] of the 18th June publishes a petition made by one Asutosh Choudhury to the District Registrar of Birbhum against the Sub-Registrar of Dubrajpur.

(c)—Jails.

RATNAKAR,
June 10th, 1906.

16. With reference to the recently published Government Resolution on the administration of Jails in Bengal, the *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 10th June characterises the official explanations of the high rate of mortality in the prisons at Burdwan, Chaibassa, Midnapore, etc., as shameful and quite unworthy of credence, and suggests that the real explanations are to be found in excessively hard work, inhuman oppression by the jail officials, lack of healthy and adequate food, and want of proper medical treatment.

17. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 17th June reviews the Report of the Jail administration of Bengal in the following terms:—

HITVARTA,
June 17th, 1906.

The European prisoners have their usual meals, but those provided for the native prisoners are so poor that they can hardly keep them in health. The report shows a remarkable increase in the Jail income realized from the sale of the articles made by the prisoners. It is, therefore, the duty of the Jail authorities to look after the health of the prisoners whose labour has been the source of so much income to the Jail Department. Since there has been no increase in the number of prisoners nor in the price of the articles produced, we believe the prisoners were compelled to do more work to earn the above income. The income of the Jails is enough to keep their inmates in comfort and good health. If the amount of their labour is reduced, even then they can improve their health. Of course those who commit crime should be punished, but that does not mean that revenue alone should be the consideration without a due regard to the health of those who produce it.

(d)—Education.

18. A correspondent of the *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 16th June writes that there is a *pathsala* at the village of Raipur in the Satkhira subdivision, which has been practically kept closed since the month of *Agrahayan* (November and December) last, when its head-pandit, Babu Priyanath Ghose, resigned office. The school-house was unroofed by a storm and still remains in that plight. No more than seven or eight pupils attended the institution while it existed. The first and second classes have absolutely no students. The inhabitants of the village are indifferent to its continuance. The Sub-Inspector of Schools, Satkhira, came to inspect it in July last, but in consequence of the bad roads, he sent word to its students to meet him at the Ghoshnagar *pathsala* a mile off, and there made the examination of them on which he based his report. Since then about a year has passed, but nobody, it appears, has felt it his duty to inquire how the institution has been faring in the interval. Two or three petitions were sent in against the Sub-Inspector of Schools referred to above, but they have failed of their purpose. How does he pass the bill for this *pathsala*? Is there nobody to see how Government funds are wasted?

KHULNAVASI,
June 16th, 1906.

19. In noticing the letter of the Inspector of Schools, Dacca Circle, to the Secretary of Prince Edward's Institution at Bajitpur, excluding it from the benefit of Government scholarships, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 17th June observes:—

HITVARTA,
June 17th, 1906.

Mr. Stapleton and the Secretary of the Bajitpur School. If Sir B. Fuller thought it proper to allow the readmission of rusticated students of Eastern Bengal under the orders of the Secretary of State for India, why is His Honour's Inspector of Schools treating the teachers in this way? How does the Inspector call the meeting, in which it was resolved that the students should take part in the *swadeshi* movement, a political one? Does Sir B. Fuller mean to carry out the orders of the Secretary of State for India in this manner? Does the Secretary of State mean to make the Indians happy by this sort of administration?

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

20. The *Prasun* [Katwa] of the 15th June speaks of the urgent need of doing something to relieve the scarcity of water both for drinking and for irrigation purposes from which the cultivators of the *Karkh* country (a portion of the Burdwan division) are now suffering, and in this connexion suggests that, if unavoidable, even fresh taxation might be put on with this object. The cultivator, considering in how many ways he is now mulcted both by Government and his landlord, will not feel seriously the weight of such additional burden, but Government must take care that it be not appropriated, like the road-cess, to other purposes than that for which it will be levied.

PRASUN,
June 15th, 1906.

ULUBARIA DARPAN,
June 20th, 1906.

21. The *Ulubaria Darpan* [Ulubaria] of the 20th June alleges that the voters' list which has been prepared for the ensuing election of members for the Ulubaria Local Board contains many names which have no claim to be there, since their possessors have not the requisite property qualifications.

(j)—Questions affecting the land.

RANGPUR
VARTAVAHA,
June 15th, 1906.

22. The *Rangpur Vartavaha* [Rangpur] of the 15th June draws the attention of the Government to the extreme mismanagement of the estate of the late Maharaja Govindalal Ray of Tajhat under Mr. Pope, the Manager appointed by the Court of Wards. The estate has an annual income of three lakhs of rupees. But in spite of this large income, Mr. Pope has sold Government securities of the value of one lakh of rupees. A certain muharrir had to sue the estate for his salary and has got a decree against it. Mr. Pope should be at once removed from the management of the estate.

(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.

JYOTI,
June 14th, 1906.

23. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 14th June says that on the preceding day five passengers took inter-class tickets for the morning down train at the Sitakundu railway station, but the train contained no inter-class carriage. The five passengers were therefore obliged to travel third class. Such cases are frequent on the line. Why are inter-class tickets sold if the Railway Company cannot supply inter-class accommodation?

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
June 16th, 1906.

24. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 16th June speaks of the desirability of constructing (a) waiting accommodation for females, (b) a second platform, and (c) an overbridge connecting the platform now existing with the one proposed at Palasi station on the Ranaghat-Murshidabad line.

(h)—General.

CHARU MIHIR,
June 11th, 1906.

25. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 12th June writes as follows:—
Whatever the Anglo-Indian newspapers, the apologists of Sir Bampfylde Fuller, that apostle of the policy of divide and rule, might say, the real cause of the Hindu-Musalman quarrels in Mymensingh is no longer a secret to anybody. Whoever will deny that these quarrels are the fruits of the venom that Sir Bampfylde, in the plenitude of his power, has sown broadcast over the land, will be guilty of knowingly suppressing the truth. Every act of Sir Bampfylde's has betrayed his eagerness to drown the rising power of the country in the whirlpool of division and discord. So long he was testing the power of his hammer on the people, but at the present moment he has taken shelter mainly under this policy of setting class against class. In the pursuit of this policy a spirit of vindictiveness is also noticeable. No one occupying the high position of a provincial ruler was ever before so humiliated by his superiors as he has been. What effect such humiliation produced upon his sense of self-respect we do not know; but any other man in his position would certainly, under the circumstances, have resigned his office. Sir Bampfylde Fuller, however, did not resign. He is avenging himself in another way for the insult. The cry of *Bande Mataram* and street processions were both disagreeable to him. But both of them were proclaimed legal by the highest authority. Sir Bampfylde has accordingly taken refuge under stratagem and a sinister policy. The cry of *Bande Mataram* may create a groundless alarm in the minds of the European community, but no one ever heard of a Musalman objecting to the cry. Most probably, no Musalman ever before even dreamt of making such an objection. But though the Musalmans never thought of objecting, Sir Bampfylde Fuller thought of it on their behalf, and gifted with superhuman vision, discovered in the cry of *Bande Mataram* seeds of objection from the Musalman community. Whether the Musalmans have or have not any objection to make to the cry, he, as their representative, has told the public in a loud voice that such an objection can be

made, and on that plea is endeavouring to stifle the cry. His conduct is very naturally poisoning the minds of the Musalmans. By attributing to them things they never dreamt of or said, Sir Bampfylde is, on the one hand, creating ill-feeling in their minds against the Hindus and, on the other, curbing the power of the people. He had recourse to the same dodge in his attempt to suppress the *swadeshi* agitation, but did not succeed. Who on earth has the power to stem the tide of the movement that has come as a godsend with a mission from the Almighty? Partiality and exuberance of lip-sympathy are the two unfailing weapons for creating a breach between different sections of the subject people, and they are being used by Sir Bampfylde and his subordinates at every step. But owing to the far-sightedness of the Musalman leaders, the officials have not succeeded in their object. It was only a few self-seeking Musalmans who, seeing in the attitude of the officials an opportunity for serving their own interests, took up a hostile attitude towards the agitation, but they failed to gain any support from the Musalman community at large. And it is this handful of men who, deceived by the words and conduct of the officials, have brought about the present troubles.

We do not know what to say to those short-sighted and narrow-minded leaders who have set fire to their own houses to enjoy the fun. Their love of anarchy is like the insect's love for the fire, and we tremble at the consequences of their conduct.

The attempt of Sir Bampfylde Fuller and his subordinates to exonerate themselves from all blame in regard to the Musalman disturbances by throwing the whole blame on the *swadeshi* agitation will not deceive any intelligent man. We know that the majority of educated and respectable Musalmans have been really pained at the recent occurrences. But the number of educated men is comparatively few among the Musalmans, and illiterate Musalmans are quite unable to grasp their real condition. Wicked men can therefore easily deceive them and spread among them the fire of discontent.

People whose complicity in the recent disturbances is proved will be punished by the law courts, upon whose decisions it would be premature to make any remark now. But we shall be sorry to see those poor and illiterate cultivators, who were deceived by misrepresentations into taking part in the disturbances, subjected to punishment. It is the men who misled them that ought to be severely punished. We are not speaking of punishment inflicted by the law courts, but of social punishment. The liberal-minded patriots among the Musalman community ought to see that the stigma attaching to their society in consequence of the recent disturbances is removed, otherwise the object of the *swadeshi* agitation will be frustrated.

Mr. Morley and the partition question.

26. The same paper writes as follows:—

CHARUMINIR,
June 12th, 1906.

We do not know the result of the private interview between Mr. Morley and Sir Henry Cotton and others on the subject of the partition of Bengal. But the London correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has raised a note of despair, saying that there is no chance of the partition being set aside so long as the present Liberal Government remains in power. For many reasons, we cannot disagree with the *Patrika's* London correspondent. Mr. John Morley's liberal principles have, it is clear, been completely shattered under the complicated wheels of the Indian administration, and he is now nothing more than a mere plaything in the hands of the Indian officials. He has no experience of Indian affairs, nor is he showing any solicitude to ascertain India's real condition from independent sources. In fact, he does not care to learn more than he can learn from officials connected with this country, and is making no independent or impartial enquiries for himself into the partition question.

We do not know what delusion he is labouring under. He himself admitted the impropriety of the partition of Bengal, but he is not evidently acting up to his convictions. If his delusion be the delusion of prestige, then we must say that he has been deceiving himself in a most deplorable manner. People whose prestige he has been so anxious to maintain have been every moment kicking at his prestige. The authorities in East Bengal are every moment going against the policy of administration which he advocates. The policy of affectionate treatment of the subject people has taken leave of the

Government of Eastern Bengal permanently. That administration, in fact, has become conspicuous for its want of sympathy and liberal principles. Had Mr. Morley kept his eyes open, he would have had no difficulty in seeing his own condition.

He has accepted the Secretaryship of India at a very critical moment. If a giant like him fails to pass through the ordeal, his failure will remain as a dark spot in the world's eye for ever. But judging from the manner in which he is acting, his downfall seems inevitable. If he does not set aside the partition of Bengal, his tenure of the Indian Secretaryship will be a conspicuous failure. And what is now wanting to make it such a failure will be supplied by the Indian administrators.

The Bengalis are, by nature, a meek and loyal people. But, to our mind, they will not be long able to sustain that character. No one can say where the excitement caused by the partition will end. There may come a day when the nation whose cries of protest are slighted by you as the cries of a dead or languishing people, will have a fire lit up in their very bones and skeletons that will not only consume themselves but will, at the same time, leave its mark on the British rule itself. This is not the surmise of a visionary, but a glaring truth in history. America will for ever bear testimony to this truth.

A century and a half ago, Edmund Burke and many other great statesmen gave to the English Government of the day the same advice in regard to America that is being offered to-day by Sir Henry Cotton, Mr. Smeaton and other liberal-minded Englishmen to the present Ministry in regard to the Bengal partition question. But England, proud of its wealth and prosperity, did not heed Burke's advice, and the consequence that followed need not be mentioned here. What pains and astonishes us most is that, though imbued with the immortal principles of Edmund Burke, Mr. John Morley has yet been unable to decide upon his proper course in regard to the partition question.

We repeat again, and everybody who can see the shadow of future events in the history of the past will agree with us, that nothing but the withdrawal of the partition will calm the excited Bengali. That single act will make Mr. Morley's name immortal in history and the foundation of British rule firmer than ever. But if the partition is not withdrawn, the venom that is now poisoning every grain of dust in Bengal will spread over all India.

27. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 14th June writes:—

"Tyranny in Eastern Bengal."

The people of India used so long to be told that the Secretary of State for India was the highest governing authority over India, and that the Governor-General and the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors were subordinate to him. That that was a mistake is now being seen.

Nobody who reads the reply which Mr. Morley gave to a question of Sir H. Cotton's in Parliament on the 24th May last and who reads also of the circulars which are being issued by Magistrates in various parts of Eastern Bengal can maintain that the Secretary of State's orders carry any authority in Eastern Bengal. Mr. Morley said that the Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam had withdrawn all restrictions on public meetings and processions imposed by previous orders. We inquire if really it is so. The fact that Sir Bampfylde Fuller is disregarding Mr. Morley's orders was telegraphed to London on the 12th June last. We are anxious to know what action Mr. Morley takes with regard to Sir B. Fuller after this information reaches him. The public are well aware that anarchy now prevails in Eastern Bengal.

28. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 15th June writes as follows:—

Sir B. Fuller and a policy of sympathy.

Sir B. Fuller will never be able to follow in his administration a policy of sympathy with his subjects, because he has become accustomed to the exercise of despotic powers. If Mr. Morley really wishes to satisfy the Bengalis, he should at once remove His Honour from his present post and place the whole Bengali nation under one ruler. Mere expressions of sympathy will fail to deceive the Bengalis, because they have long studied the character of Englishmen.

SANJIVANI,
June 14th, 1906.

HITAVADI,
June 15th, 1906.

29. Referring to the present situation in Eastern Bengal, the *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 16th June writes that the

HOWRAH HITAISHI,
June 16th, 1906.

The situation in Eastern Bengal.

withdrawal of the circulars prohibiting processions is in name only. Sir Bampfylde Fuller professes to see that better feelings are being established between Government and the people, but as a matter of fact, official oppression has not abated at all. The police are still issuing notices prohibiting processions and meetings, and prosecuting these who are found acting against these notices of theirs. His Honour by making unfounded statements like the foregoing may throw dust in the eyes of the Viceroy or of the Secretary of State, but can he not see that the restoration of peace to the country is far off yet? Cannot he and his advisers realize that an unnatural discontent with and distrust towards the ruling race is being instilled into the minds of the ruled as a result of their recent measures? Is Lord Minto unable to see that Sir B. Fuller proclaims peace, where there is no peace, for fear of losing his office?

30. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 18th June writes as follows in English:—

Mr. Morley and his policy.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 18th, 1906.

The Secretary of State's future policy as announced on two distinct occasions is marked by sympathy for the Indian people. The first occasion presented itself in the House of Commons when he had to give an answer to a question put to him as regards the present state of affairs in Bengal. The second was at the Guildhall banquet. After the inauguration of this policy Sir B. Fuller has withdrawn, though partially, one of his obnoxious circulars and reinstated the Dacca and Rangpur students expelled from Government institutions for no other offence than that of playing a part, though very insignificant, in connexion with the partition agitation and the *swadeshi* movement.

We do not know if this policy had anything to do with the elevation of Justice Chandra Madhab Ghosh to the Chief Justiceship of the Calcutta High Court and that of Mr. S. P. Sinha to the office of the Advocate-General of Bengal. But the appointment of the Supreme Judge of the Burmah Chief Court to the Home Membership of the Viceroy's Executive Council in supersession of Mr. Risley is a striking proof of Mr. Morley's sympathetic policy. The elevation of Mr. Risley, whose name is associated with such a measure as the Bengal partition, to the Home Membership would be considered by the people of Bengal most repugnant to their feelings, were it to take place at all. Mr. Morley spared them this infliction, showing that he really understood the gravity of the situation in Bengal.

But what the Secretary of State has up to this time done to soothe the perturbed feelings of the Indian people is nothing in comparison with what he is required by wise statesmanship to do. If he be really anxious to be true to his professions, the chief thing he should do is to take measures with a view to change the mode of government which, to our thinking, lies at the root of all evils. The bureaucratic form of government is an anachronism in India at the present time. English education has done its work. All the cultured men of the Indian Universities have learnt the advantages of English political institutions. They think, and very rightly too, that all these institutions may much profitably be engrafted here, and the machinery of government may be worked with best advantage to the State and the people alike if the Indian element be largely introduced into it. Their views are largely shared by many Anglo-Indian administrators of experience who do not hesitate to keep the British public informed of their views, and some of whom have got seats in the new Parliament, where also they have not remained inactive. They are taking advantage of every opportunity for pressing upon the attention of the House the necessity of such a much-needed reform.

The attitude of the Secretary of State as regards this matter seems to be at variance with his profession of sympathy. He is reputed to be slow and cautious and not to move a pace quicker than what he is dictated by sound statesmanship to do. Consequently we find he has not up to date taken any initiative towards any reform in the matter of the administration of India. But affairs at places in the new province have necessitated the interference of His Lordship and the early introduction of the sympathetic and conciliatory policy, so warmly advocated by him, in the government of the country.

Though the circular interdicting processions and the cry of *Bande Mataram* is considerably modified instead of being wholly withdrawn, yet matters do not seem to have improved in the least. Even now the cry of *Bande Mataram* is disallowed and licenses, though not withheld, are granted on conditions which are wholly unnecessary and uncalled-for. Then, again, the licenses, once granted, are on occasions altered, and revoked or cancelled on grounds the validity of which may well be questioned. Barisal is now thrown in the shade by Mymensingh, where the lieutenants of Sir Bampfylde have established a veritable reign of terror in more ways than one. Under the circumstances, we would humbly beseech His Lordship to take time by the forelock and press upon the Local Governments the adoption of his policy at an early date and thereby lay at rest the feeling of alarm and unrest created of late among the people in this part of the country.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June, 19th, 1906.

31. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th June says that the news of the withdrawal of the Lyon circulars failed to give satisfaction to such Bengalis as had studied the English character and were conversant with the ways of Englishmen in matters political. And recent events showing the attitude of the Government towards the people in Mymensingh, Madaripur, Malda and other places have gone to prove that they were right. When at the beginning of the *swadeshi* movement Government began its course of oppression in defiance of all law and justice, it was predicted that ere long it would rue its conduct and be obliged to make peace with the oppressed people. And now although it is high time that peace was made, the officials are disobeying Mr. Morley's orders. It will be some time yet before they come to their senses. It is only recently that the English have lost the confidence of the Bengalis, who now believe that their rulers are intent on ruining them. The authorities were warned of this before, but they did not take warning. Mr. Morley tried to soothe the people by withdrawing the Lyon circulars and making display of a false "sympathy" before them. But the officials have not understood Mr. Morley and are still pursuing their course of oppression. Lord Minto also is silent in the matter. For their blindness to the present widespread discontent in India, Government will have to pay a heavy penalty in future.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 20th, 1906.

32. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 20th June writes that the fact that the *swadeshi* agitation has gained the strength it has, is to be ascribed to an impression which has been long growing and which has now at last become firmly rooted in the popular mind that the English came to this country only with the intent to deceive, and that by their deception they are ruining the interests of the Indians in every way. Let all well-wishers of British rule in the country without any further delay begin showing sympathy with and thereby reassuring the natives of the soil, otherwise, the situation has come to a pass that portends evil both to the governors and to the governed. It is by their excessive cleverness that the English have forfeited the confidence of the Indians. They thought of throwing dust in the eyes of the people and thus achieving their own selfish purposes. But that is no longer possible. It is in consequence of their own acts that the rulers have become unpopular with the ruled, and if the anger of the latter is now to be appeased, they must make some amount of sacrifice of their own interests. If the English are really clever, then they will not hesitate in the face of the situation as it is to make some little sacrifice of self-interest. That the Government of Eastern Bengal has done a reprehensible thing in having made the *swadeshi* agitation a pretext for exercising brute force towards its subjects, has been understood very well in England, however little the head and members of that Government may have understood it. That is why Mr. Morley talks of sympathy. Anyhow, what is done is done. The all-suffering people of Bengal have borne all the oppression which has been committed on them. It is the duty of Government now to see that no recurrence of any kind of oppression happens in any case. Care should be taken to see that the discontent which the Government of Eastern Bengal has created by its own acts does not spread to all India. There will be no harm to British dignity if the high officials here now change their angry mien. It will rather produce feelings of attachment between the ruled and their rulers. It is

Government counselled to follow a policy of sympathy.

apparent that no further exhibition of brute force is desirable. Unless the Government of Eastern Bengal desist from their *aid* to apply brute force, not the country alone, but they themselves may also be involved in a common ruin. That is why the authorities are counselled to re-assume a peaceful mien. It is the opinion of many that the people are living happily under the British Government. It cannot therefore be in any way desirable that harm should come to their governors. It is as a well-wisher to British rule that the writer offers this counsel to the rulers to return to a peaceful frame of mind.

33. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 14th June writes:—

SANJIVANI,
June 14th, 1906.

Messrs. Kemp and Jack. *Two Government Officers.*—In course of the trial of the case against Mr. Jack at Barisal, the Magistrate personally took down the deposition of the witnesses. When it was the turn of the Inspector of Police to give evidence, Mr. Kemp told him to depose from the notes he had himself given him. But the Inspector was not able to understand Mr. Kemp's writing, so Mr. Kemp began to read out his notes and the Inspector gave evidence accordingly. The Superintendent of Police thus trampled on law and justice in a public court.

Seven refractory tenants have sent in a petition to Government against their zamindar in Barisal. Mr. Jack, taking sides with the tenants, wrote to the District Magistrate detailing their condition. But the vakils proved the unfounded nature of the foregoing accusation. Again, when the Deputy Inspector-General of Police and the District Superintendent of Police *again* went down to inquire into the case of the refractory tenants, Mr. Jack sent his orderly, Nabi Khan, with them in the same steamer. This trusted orderly, acting on the advice of his master, has incited and persuaded the refractory tenants to conduct a prosecution against their zamindar. A Government official is thus attempting to establish peace in the country by adding to the discord between tenant and landlord.

34. The same paper publishes the following telegram which has reached it from Bagerhat for an inquiry by the District Magistrate of Khulna and the Government into its truth or otherwise:—

SANJIVANI.

"Famine-stricken people are insulted in court of Deputy Magistrate, Bagerhat, when they come to bring their grievances to his notice."

35. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 14th June writes as follows:—

Sir B. Fuller and Mr. Hare.

When the partition question was under discussion, we were told by the officials then in power that Eastern Bengal and Western Bengal would always be governed on the same principles of administration in spite of the partition. But we did not believe that. We knew that when Mr. Fuller descended from the jungles of Assam and took over charge of the administration of Eastern Bengal, he would find it hard to give up his former habits and predilections. And this is what has actually happened. It is Sir B. Fuller's irritability of temper and love of revenge which are responsible for the present disquiet in Eastern Bengal. Mr. Hare, the present ruler of Western Bengal, is a man of high culture and peaceful temperament. Had Sir B. Fuller been in his place, he would have made the Sivaji festival in Calcutta more attractive than it did actually prove. But under the peaceful sway of Mr. Hare the festival ended as a typical festival should end, without the necessity of a single drop of blood being shed by the regulation *lathi* of the policeman. Not a single *lal pugri* (policeman) was seen at the place where the festival was celebrated. It appeared as if the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police took no notice of it. The contrast is remarkable.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
June 14th, 1906.

36. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 14th June writes that reliable information has been received that Ibrahim Khan of Tengapara in Netrokona has been selected for appointment as an Honorary Magistrate. He is a

The cases of two members of the local Board in Netrokona.

man without property and with debts to the amount of Rs. 1,200. This gentleman has also been elected a member of the Local Board, although he possesses no landed property and has not to pay any road-cess. For means of livelihood he looks to a madrasah, which yields him a monthly income of five or six rupees.

SANJIVANI,
June 14th, 1906.

Among the members selected by Government is a youth named Abbas Ali, who does not pay road-cess, is neither a graduate nor undergraduate of the University, nor has an annual income approximating to a thousand rupees.

RATNAKAR,
June 16th, 1906.

37. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 16th June announces that Government has acquired 13 cottahs of land at Plassey in order to enclose the site of the battle-field there with a wall, and then goes on to say in sarcastic comment that the smallness of the area of land acquired is quite in keeping with the ease with which the victory at Plassey was won by the English, and that a pillar should be erected in the centre of the enclosure and round it should be tied Clive's forged documents.

RATNAKAR.

38. The same paper writes that the official choice of Khargpur for the site of the head-quarters of the new district which is to be created out of Midnapore was guided by the consideration that Khargpur possesses a large European population employed in the service of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. The paper ascribes political motives to Government in having come to the decision to partition the district of Midnapore.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 18th, 1906.

39. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 18th June writes as follows in English:—

The employment of Mussalmans in ministerial offices in the districts in Eastern Bengal.

A circular has recently been issued by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam directing the superior officers and several heads of departments to find out means of raising the proportion of the Muhammadan element in the subordinate and ministerial services, and there has been a good deal of adverse criticism upon it. We, on our part, fail to see through the reasons of the blame which Sir B. Fuller has been made subject to.

One of the principles on which Sir Bampfylde bases his arguments is really laudable and quite in accord with the traditions of all civilized nations. Whatever goes to impart light to a nation or any part of it, whatever is likely to evoke a spirit of self-advancement among its people, is unquestionably sound, blissful, great and noble. If, therefore, our Muhammadan brethren get an impetus for learning in consequence of this circular, it would be very selfish for the Hindus to grudge their fellow-subjects this little blessing. Nay, we contend, the whole Indian nation will be the most benefited, if the express desire of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam happens to be fulfilled, even partially. It is not a fact that, had the Musalman brethren been more capable by education of adequately grasping our situation among the nations of the world, the cause of our national regeneration would gain immensely in strength. Then neither a Lord Lansdowne nor a Lord Curzon could turn a deaf ear to the prayers of the Indian National Congress; nor could the popular feeling be trampled down in the way it is now done.

One fact, however, nobody can deny. It is English education that has developed among its advocates in this country the feeling of true patriotism and nationality, and has just chalked out the path of our future national unity. Let, therefore, the Muhammadan community grow up in education so as to be able to keep pace with the progress of the nation, and our difficulties will be half overcome. And so let us rather congratulate Sir Bampfylde Fuller upon the discovery of a means which will set the Muhammadan community in motion to qualify themselves for better citizenship.

Another argument in favour of the circular is this. If by virtue of this important document the Hindus get clean out of Government service they will have to fall back upon their own resources, independently of any Government aid or patronage in order to earn their own livelihood. That will be a great gain—a true boon. Subordination has become almost an inherent dominating principle of our life,—we know nothing but to serve and serve alone. It will consequently be indeed a great national emancipation if we learn to stand on our own legs.

It is feared by some that the circular will more and more widen the gulf between the two communities instead of bridging it over. We, at any rate, cannot make out the "how" and "why" of it. We are strongly of opinion that it will rather ensure the growth of a deeper feeling of sympathy and oneness between the Hindus and Musalmans.

In the interests of the administration it has been necessary to insist very generally, as a qualification for posts in the public service, upon a knowledge of English, in which our Muhammadan brethren are very backward. And this is to account for the small percentage of Muhammadans in the public service, to a larger share of which they are entitled by reason of the proportion they constitute of the entire population. The circular in question aims at remedying the injustice so long done to the Muhammadans by giving them wider scope and fairer chances of admission into the several departments of the State. It will thus serve as an incentive to the Muhammadans for English education, which is necessary to march with the times, as His Honour truly observes. It is English education on a large scale that alone will pave the way for the Muhammadans to sink all differences of opinion with the Hindus and join them shoulder to shoulder to work out the salvation of the common mother-country. We also would, therefore, be equally glad with His Honour to see Muhammadans take more advantage of the opportunities of gaining English education which are offered them by the educational institutions of the province.

40. Reviewing the circular recently issued by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam regarding the employment of Muhammadans in ministerial appointments under Government, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 18th June says that the intelligent portion of the Muhammadans must have already understood that the circular means to create a split between the Hindus and themselves.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
June 18th, 1906.

Employment of Muhammadans in the Government service in the new province.

III.—LEGISLATION.

41. The *Pratinidhi* [Comilla] of the 13th June writes that it is a point worth considering by those who suggest that no member be returned by the people to Sir Bamfylde Fuller's Legislative Council, whether the presence of elected members in Councils, even though they constitute a minority there, has not been effective in drawing attention to the presence of many official abuses and in bringing official opinion on legislative measures into some harmony with unofficial opinion, be it ever so little. It is further suggested that even if all educated men with a sense of self-respect stand aloof as suggested, the seats in the Council will certainly not be left vacant, but will be filled by unqualified men, whose presence there will not be the check to unpopular legislation which the presence of better qualified men has been and will be. The paper concludes by pointing for illustration of its position to the circumstances under which Babu Nalin Behary Sarkar became again a member of the Calcutta Corporation after having once resigned his seat, and to the beneficial consequences to the rate-payers which followed therefrom.

PRATINIDHI,
June 13th, 1906.

Memberships of the proposed Legislative Council for Eastern Bengal and Assam.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

42. In view of the fact that the actual bazar prices of the food-grains in Patna greatly differ from those which are published in the Government statement of prices current, the *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 7th June requests the District Officer to examine the rates by private enquiry and to see that the local traders in food-grains keep to the rates which they have reported for the above statement.

AL PUNCH,
June 7th, 1906.

43. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 12th June writes that acute famine conditions now prevail in Mymensingh. Rice sells nowhere at less than Rs. 6 per maund and in some places at Rs. 7. The prospects of the coming crop are not very hopeful either.

CHARU MIHIR,
June 12th, 1906.

A correspondent writes to the same paper from Achmita to say that acute distress from scarcity is being felt in that locality. The price of rice per maund is over Rs. 6. A case lately occurred in which a pot of cooked rice which had been left negligently guarded by the housewife was stolen by a neighbour. The *aus* paddy crop is being injured by an insect-blight. The same paper writes that in Gafargaon and its neighbourhood rice at

times cannot be purchased at all, and sometimes can be purchased at Rs. 10 and over per maund. A twelve-year old lad, a Musalman by faith, of the village of Ujan Bhananpara in Iswarganj, is reported to have committed suicide, having been driven thereto by hunger.

JASOHAR,
June 13th, 1906.

44. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 13th June speaks of the prevalence of famine throughout the districts of Jessore and Khulna. The suffering has become acute among respectable middle class people. The writer regrets that the Collectors of Jessore and Khulna are adopting what appear to be only half-hearted, inadequate measures to combat the situation.

JASOHAR.

45. A correspondent of the same paper says that severe distress prevails in the Nehalpur village under the Manirampur thana in the Jessore district. Respectable middle class people, who from considerations of delicacy are unwilling to make their real condition known to others, are the greatest sufferers. Many of them are for days together going without food. Rice is selling at Rs. 5-8 or Rs. 6 per maund. The District Magistrate has been petitioned in the matter.

46. The *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 13th June writes on the authority of a correspondent that the inhabitants of Idilpur and its neighbourhood are suffering from scarcity. Rice, pulses, and vegetables are all selling at exceptionally high prices. At Gosainhat, a place in the centre of the district of Faridpur, Backergunge rice of medium quality is selling at Rs. 6 per maund. Many people have therefore been compelled to use Rangoon *atap* rice, the price of which is Rs. 5 per maund.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
June 13th, 1906.

47. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th June writes that Faridpur is now in the grip of a severe famine. The condition of the poorer part of the population is passing from bad to worse with the lapse of time. Many are now going without some of their daily meals, while others are in such a pass, that unless promptly relieved, they will die of starvation.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 16th, 1906.

48. The *Pratinidhi* [Comilla] of the 13th June writes that although the prevalence of actual famine conditions will probably be denied by most officials, there is no gainsaying the fact that scarcity of the most acute type is being felt all over the country. In the district of Noakhali, in the villages under the jurisdiction of Daudkandi, the price of rice is Rs. 7 per maund. On the 9th June last, a *golah* stored with 200 maunds of rice was looted by about 400 famished men. Petty thefts and dacoities have increased. A case occurred in which a person accused of theft told the policeman in whose custody he was at the time that he was not afraid of being sent to jail for his crime, for in prison he would be sure of his daily meals. A second case of looting of a store of rice is reported from Luxam, where the looting took place at the house of Najmaddi Majumdar.

PRATINIDHI,
June 13th, 1906.

49. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th June writes that acute scarcity prevails in Noakhali. Rice is selling at 7 seers per rupee. Young Hindu and Musalman females, ordinarily *pardanashin*, have been compelled by hunger to go about from door to door begging for alms. A Musalman of the village Durgapur (thana Begamganj) was lately driven by the sight of the sufferings of his children from starvation, to attempt suicide, which the timely interference of some neighbours prevented. Another Musalman, an inhabitant of the village Sonaimoni, fell into a faint on the road-side while on his way home from an unsuccessful quest for a loan of a handful of rice. He had been fasting for the two previous days. Cases of suicide of persons impelled to it by starvation are also reported from a village in the thana of Luxmipur. The correspondent concludes by reference to the case of a Musalman within his personal knowledge who had died of starvation in a village two miles to the south of Rashidpur.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 19th, 1906.

50. A correspondent of the *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 14th June reports prevalence of famine in Harbang, Ramu, Ukhia, Teknaf, and other places in the Chittagong district. The sight of distress is heart-rending.

JYOTI,
June 14th, 1906.

Men and women are going about begging food like mad people. The writer himself saw a woman sitting under a tree with a child in her lap. They had been starving for two days. Theft and dacoity have increased.

51. The *Prasun* [Katwa] of the 15th June, writing of the prospects of the crops in the *Rarh* country, says that the total failure of the rains in the month of *Jaistha* (May—June) last destroyed the seeds which had been sown in the latter part of the month of *Baisakh*. So there is nothing to be hoped for, unless fresh seeds are sown. This part of the country has been suffering from partial failures of the crops for the past five years in succession. The records of the local Sub-Registration office show the alarming frequency with which the cultivators are running into debt. Most of them are without even the wherewithal to buy fresh seeds or to replace the heads of cattle they have lost by cow pox. Loans from Government still remain beyond the reach of the ordinary cultivator. Unless measures of relief are taken, there are many agriculturists in the villages in the *Rarh* country who will not be able to begin agricultural operations this year for lack of seeds, of food, and of cattle. Common rice is selling in all the villages at Rs. 4-4 per maund.

PRASUN,
June 15th, 1906.

52. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 15th June regrets to notice that Government is showing the greatest indifference to the work of giving relief to the famine-stricken people of Bengal. Even the representation of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce to the Government in the matter has been ineffectual. Mufassal newspapers are all reporting prevalence of famine in Tippera, Bankura, Barsial, Faridpur, Midnapore, Burdwan and other districts. It has ever been the practice of the English rulers of India to try their best to conceal, during the earlier stages of the calamity, the presence of famine in the country. Government has rejected the suggestions of the National Chamber of Commerce as impracticable. But what are the authorities doing to give relief to the starving population?

HITAVADI,
June 15th, 1906.

53. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 16th June, after expressing the opinion that the effects of a famine in Eastern Bengal are likely to be felt acutely over Western Bengal as well, where it is likely to result in more deaths than those caused by the Orissa famine, goes on to appeal to Lord Minto no longer to waste time, but to adopt measures to meet the situation at once, without waiting for action to be taken by Sir B. Fuller, who has lost the public confidence.

BANGAVASI,
June 16th, 1906.

54. Referring to the prevalence of famine in Eastern Bengal, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 17th June says that there are three sources from which the necessary funds for combating a famine may be obtained, viz., the charity of the Government of the country, the charity of its well-to-do inhabitants, and the charity of foreign countries. From the first of these sources Eastern Bengal can expect nothing, because the whole course of Sir B. Fuller's conduct as the Lieutenant-Governor of the new province proves that he is an unsympathetic, heartless ruler. Had it been otherwise, his subordinate Magistrates and other officials, while busy in their campaign against the *swadeshi* movement, would not so long have remained almost indifferent to this matter. As regards the charity of foreign countries, they themselves are at present so much embarrassed with their own troubles and misfortunes that they can be hardly expected to come to the help of the starving population of Eastern Bengal.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 17th, 1906.

Japan is in the throes of a famine, China is busy guarding herself against foreign aggression, earthquake and fire have convulsed America and made her extremely miserable, while the condition of Russia is simply lamentable. In this state of things how can it be possible for these countries to help Eastern Bengal? The duty of saving the lives of the famine-stricken inhabitants of Eastern Bengal therefore falls entirely on their rich and middle class fellow-countrymen.

55. The *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 17th June gives a vivid description of the distress arising out of the scarcity of food-grains in the districts of Eastern Bengal and appeals

DACCA PRAKAS,
June 17th, 1906.

to the native public for help to their starving fellow-countrymen. Children of Bengal, exclaims the writer, give up all political agitation for the time being put your whole energy in the work of saving the lives of your brethren, and be true followers of the *swadeshi*.

YUGANTAR,
June 17th, 1906.

56. The *Yugantar* [Calcutta] of the 17th June says that famine is raging throughout Eastern Bengal. Starvation is driving people to commit suicide and murder. Emaraddi, an inhabitant of Barisal, has murdered his wife and children. Men are committing theft, dacoity, etc., on the expectation of getting food in prison. Somebody has said that it is "*Bande Mataram*" which has caused this distress. All respectable natives of Eastern Bengal should raise their voice against this false theory. This famine will make the masses realise the full extent of the poverty of Bengal. Platform speeches will no longer be necessary for the purpose.

HITVARTA,
June 17th, 1906.

57. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 17th June reports the prevalence of a severe famine in Faridpur, Barisal and Tippera in Eastern Bengal where people are dying of starvation. As for the memorial of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce to open famine relief works in the affected area, the paper says Sir B. Fuller is expending all his energy in suppressing the cry of *Bande Mataram*, and has thus hardly time to pay heed to the above memorial.

DAILY HITAVADI,
June 18th, 1906.

58. A correspondent writes to the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th June to say that acute distress is being experienced in the village of Chandkhanbomba in Bejura in Sylhet. The situation is such that unless prompt relief comes, deaths from starvation will ensue. Rice is selling at Rs. 5-12 per maund.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,
June 19th, 1906.

59. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Tippera] of the 19th June writes that many parts of the district of Tippera are now in the grip of an acute scarcity. Loans have been difficult to get from private persons, since it has been decided that the raiyats' rights in their holdings are not transferable. The *aus* paddy crop, to which the agriculturists look forward with so much expectation, has been attacked by a kind of insect-blight. A case lately occurred in which a man committed suicide, unable any longer to see himself and his dependents starving. The need of Government help is urgent.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

AL PUNCH,
June 7th, 1906.

60. The *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 7th June says that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in his speech at the Guildhall laid special stress upon two points, viz., (1) want of sympathy on the part of the rulers towards the Indians; (2) want of efforts to remove the misunderstanding which at present exists between the two races.

The first point, the writer says, expresses His Royal Highness's kind sympathy with his Indian subjects, but as regards the second point he hesitates to pass any remark.

SOLTAN,
June 15th, 1906.

61. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 15th June publishes a contributed poem in which an appeal is made to the Moslem world to awake and see how the once world-wide Moslem Empire has been usurped by "Christian robbers." In Spain not a single Musalman lives to-day to bear witness to the great Musalman civilisation which once flourished in that land and enlightened all Europe. India has been seized by the nation of shop-keepers. Egypt, where once reigned Saladin, the scourge of Christians, is being slowly stabbed in the heart by the robbers. It is here that the great Mahdi's grave was violated and his bones given up to fire by these Christian robbers. Oh horror! But still the Moslem world awakes not. Conspiracies are being carried on with the object of usurping the sovereign power in Turkey, Morocco, Algeria and Persia. Father Mahomet, see what fire burns in this heart. May violent waves arise from this fire and wash away the race of foes. May the Moslem world awake and unite to recover its hundred thrones from the robbers.

The Anglo-Indian press and the anti-partition agitation.

62. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 15th June writes as follows:—

HITAVADI,
June 15th, 1906.

The existence in the country of a party of opponents of the partition agitation is not after all undesirable. As a matter of fact, it is the opposition of the Anglo-Indian press and officialdom which has made this agitation so violent. But so long we did not know that to oppose means to overstep the limits of courtesy and decency. The ill-feeling between the Anglo-Indians and Indians is sure to be aggravated if Government does not give timely warning to those who are satisfying their swinish propensities by constantly showering vile abuses on us, to show better behaviour. In England Mr. Morley is preaching sympathy with us, whilst in India Anglo-Indians are abusing our leaders. The manner in which the Secretary of State is taking official reports from India as gospel truth is gradually alienating the hearts of the Indians from the present Liberal Government. At this time when the Bengalis are trying to carry their agitation to England, the officials and the Anglo-Indian press have begun to say that the agitation has subsided. Mr. Morley is warned against being deceived by such gross misrepresentation of the real state of things.

An advice to Indians.

63. The *Yugantar* [Calcutta] of the 17th June writes as follows:—

YUGANTAR,
June 17th, 1906.

LIFE IN PEACE, DEATH IN WAR.

Many people take the inertness of the country for peace, and are, therefore, easy in their minds. But this illusion is doing us a good deal of harm. The Indians are debarred from the spheres of activity which enable men in other countries of the world to attain to manliness. Foreigners come to India, engage in spheres of activity from which the Indians are debarred, make money, acquire manliness, and then return to their own countries. But we remain inactive and live miserably within the narrow compass of petty trades and the clerical service. We earn a bare livelihood by supporting and sheltering ourselves under the very State policy which manages so effectually to exclude us from the sphere of action. The foreigners manage by artifice to obtain and take away the wealth of the country and everything substantial in it, and throw the Indians, reduced by them to skeletons, into the horrid jaws of famine, pestilence and poverty. On the one hand, inactivity, lifelessness, impotence and want of energy and, on the other, poverty, pestilence, scarcity and famine have gained a permanent footing in the land. Is this to be called peace?

War or a revolution is an infinitely better thing than the peace under which mortality is fast rising in India. If even fifty millions of men disappeared from India in an attempt at deliverance, would even that not be preferable to death in impotency and peace? Why should he who was born a man and of a man die like a worm? Has the Almighty provided no means of deliverance for him who cannot prove himself a man and act as such in his life? He has. IF YOU CANNOT PROVE YOURSELF A MAN IN LIFE, PLAY THE MAN IN DEATH. Foreigners have come and decided how you are to live. BUT HOW YOU ARE TO DIE DEPENDS ENTIRELY UPON YOURSELF. Others have meddled in your mode of living, but no one can meddle in your mode of dying. The right of deciding how you are to die is your own. If you cannot show yourself a man in life, show yourself such in death—that is the teaching of the times.

64. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 18th June writes as follows:—

SANDHYA,
June 18th, 1906.

The *Indian Daily News* on the Indian character.

The perusal of an article headed "New India" published in a recent issue of the *Indian Daily News* leads one to think that the management of this well-known *feringhi* oracle of Calcutta must have fallen into the hands of a mean-minded, ungrateful fellow. The article shows how rapid has been the fall of the *feringhi* since the days of the late Mr. Wilson, its quondam Editor, and how quickly the *feringhi* is travelling the downhill path of ruin. Men harbouring so much self-conceit, so much race-hatred, and so much malice in their hearts, can have no lasting place on earth.

Long ago there came to India an ungrateful *feringhi* of the name of Macaulay. The man ate the salt of India. But when he returned to England, he abused the Indians, calling them forgers and perjurers. Literary giants of the type of this ungrateful man are possible only in a nation which places

forgers like Clive, blood-thirsty Judges like Impey, and corrupt administrators like Hastings in seats of dignity and authority. We would not have said all this had not the dog of the *Indian Daily News* quoted the authority of Macaulay in support of its own indictment against the Indians. The long period of time, says this *feringhi* journal, which has elapsed since Macaulay lived and wrote, has failed to improve the character of the natives of India. We, too, believe that one can never change one's habits and character. The blood of the ungrateful Macaulay flows in the veins of this *feringhi* writer in the *Indian Daily News*. And that is why he, though eating the salt of Bengal, is yet so ready to abuse the Bengalis. If we say that men of the type of Clive, Impey and Hastings are even now not rare in *feringhi* society, and that although more than a century has passed since these men lived, the Englishman's character has not much improved,—how would you, O *feringhi*, take it? The story of Whittaker Wright, the notorious felon and forger, is not yet too old in India. We have not yet forgotten the way in which Lord Curzon gave evidence of his truthfulness in the Korean Court. We remember the fate of the great trade concern of which Lord Dufferin was the Director. We know that Parliament is still discussing the question of the honesty of Sir West Ridgeway, the late Governor of Ceylon, in his dealings with the pearl-fisheries of that island. Of the conduct of insignificant men like Crawford we have no space to say anything. In short, the characteristics which marked the English in the field of Plassey mark them still. Why should those who live in glass-houses throw stones at others? The *swadeshi* is the only means of bringing the *feringhi* to his senses. Avoid the *feringhi* as you would avoid a sin, throw away *belati* articles as you would throw away a poison,—and this not for revenge, but out of mere self-respect.

SWADES,
June 18th, 1906.

65. The *Swades* [Calcutta] of the 18th June writes as follows:—

"What we want." What we want is the establishment of British rule in India on a firm basis. We do not say this in order to flatter the officials. It is our conviction.

What will be the condition of India and the Indians if the English leave them to-day? The Musalmans will fly at the throat of the Hindus, and the Hindus at the throat of the Musalmans. The recent riots in Eastern Bengal are an object-lesson to us in this connection, inasmuch as they show that it is only the strong hand of the British Government which keeps the Hindus and Musalmans of India at peace, and that the moment its firm grip will be relaxed there will be complete anarchy in the country. The indulgent treatment recently accorded by Sir B. Fuller to the Musalmans led the latter to believe that they could oppress the Hindus with impunity and was thus responsible for the Mymensingh riots. Again, who can say that a withdrawal of British rule from India will not have the effect of reviving Mahratta raids in Bengal? It is British rule which has made friends of two such bitter enemies as the Mahratta and the Bengali. The illiterate masses of India are still sadly immersed in superstition, bigotry and fanaticism, which will no doubt be removed by education in time, but for that the help of the British Government is necessary. India will be put back a thousand years in the scale of progress, if to-day she is deprived of the benefit of British rule. It is no doubt to be regretted that the advent of British rule in the country marks the destruction of its indigenous arts and industries. But it was only our weakness and inability to protect them which enabled rapacious Englishmen to destroy them easily. But now British rule has given strength to our nerves. Signs of a new life are visible everywhere in India. A feeling of unity pervades the country and industrial regeneration is bound to follow in its wake. And for all this the firm establishment of British rule in the country is absolutely necessary.

URIYA PAPERS.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
June 9th, 1906.

66. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 9th June is sorry to learn that a convict under capital punishment in Sylhet, who had applied to the Government of India for pardon through the Government of Eastern Bengal

and Assam, was executed before the pardon granted by the former Government was received. The writer asks, who is to blame for this state of things?

67. Referring to the Act, which the Straits Settlements Government is

A prohibitory Act relating to the Straits Settlements criticised.

going to pass with the object of preventing old, helpless and decrepit beggars from landing in the Settlements, the *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 4th June observes that such a prohibitory law is quite unnecessary, for the beggars can do no harm to the people of the Settlements.

UTKALDARPAN,
June 4th, 1906.

68. Referring to the great fire, which consumed many houses in Cuttack

Mr. Garrett and the great fire of Cuttack.

on the 31st of May last and the consequent distress of the sufferers therefrom, the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 6th June thanks Mr. Garrett, the District Magistrate of Cuttack, for his indefatigable efforts in mitigating the sufferings of the distressed people.

URITA AND
NAVASAMVAD.
June 6th, 1906.

69. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 9th June approves of the action

The Hindol Manager giving paddy on loan.

of Babu Shamsunder Nand, the Manager of Hindol, who, no sooner he took charge of the State than found out that the people of that State were in great distress, due to the failure of their crops, and took immediate steps to give paddy on loan to them from the granaries of the State.

GARJATBASINI,
June 9th, 1906.

70. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 9th June learns that a number of

Ministerial officers belonging to the Cuttack and Khurda Collectorates.

amla belonging to the Cuttack Collectorate have been either suspended or dismissed, though no proceedings have been drawn up against, or explanation called for from, some of them. Some Khurda ministerial officers have been transferred to Cuttack, and some Cuttack ministerial officers to Khurda. Such changes are inadvisable at a time when the price of food is high.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 9th, 1906.

71. Referring to the proposal of a member of Parliament that India

The proposed increase of the powers and privileges of the Indians.

should have as many powers and privileges as are enjoyed by the British Colonies in all parts of the globe, and to the statement of the Secretary of State for India that he was unable to introduce many changes into the system of government in India, the same paper observes that if the proposed changes are good, why should the Secretary of State object to their introduction at the cost of the Indians? The writer therefore advises the Indians to be up and doing, and to acquire the desired changes by their own exertion.

UTKALDIPIKA.

72. The same paper thanks the Government of Bengal for withdrawing

The withdrawal of the criminal case against Khudiram Bose.

the criminal case instituted against Khudiram Bose, a boy of 15 years, in Midnapore, and observes that in the interest of good government such a case should not have been instituted at all.

UTKALDIPIKA.

73. The same paper states that the attempt of the Subdivisional Officer

The Subdivisional Officer of Tangail criticised.

of Tangail in Eastern Bengal to take security bonds from two school-boys, who are minors, under section 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, betrays an ignorance of law, not expected from an officer of his position.

UTKALDIPIKA.

74. The same paper states that a man of the *Pan* caste belonging to

A *Pan* committing mischief under the plea of madness.

Mundamuhan near Cuttack pays nocturnal visits to many adjoining villages and commits mischief there under the plea of madness. The people are therefore afraid of him. The writer hopes that the local police will watch his movements and give a good account of him.

UTKALDIPIKA.

75. The *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 4th June contends that as the

The Uriya-Bengali controversy.

Bengalis consider themselves to be superior to the Uriyas and believe themselves to be in a higher stage of civilization, they should compete with the English for higher services in Bengal and not with the Uriyas for lower services in Orissa. In that case they would show their manliness and independence. The Uriyas must be thankful to the Bengalis for what they have done in Orissa, but they must be more thankful to the English for making the Bengalis what they are. At any rate, the Uriyas are perfectly justified in asking for the exclusion of the

UTKALDARPAN,
June 4th, 1906.

Bengalis from the lower services in Orissa. The Bengalis may, however, retain higher posts where deserving Uriyas are not available.

MANORAMA,
June 11th, 1906.

76. A correspondent of the *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 11th June regrets to find that the President of the Utkal Sahitya Samaj meeting held in Balasore went too far in demanding a day's income from each of its members, who had already promised a day's income to the Utkal Union Conference. Responsible officers conducting the proceedings of an Association like those of the Utkal Sahitya Samaj must not be carried away so far by enthusiasm, which is a mere feeling, as to go beyond the domain of reason.

SAMBALPUR
HITAIKINI,
June 9th, 1906.

77. The *Sambalpur Hitaiikini* [Bamra] of the 9th June approves the proposal of its contemporary, the *Utkalbasi*, to found an enquiry committee in each village in Orissa, entrusted with the duty of bringing forward grievances of the villagers to the notice of the authorities with a view to their redress. The writer hopes that the nobility and the gentry in Orissa will pay due attention to the proposal in question.

UTKALDARPAN,
June 4th, 1906.

78. The *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 4th June publishes the proceedings of a meeting held at the Fraser Club in Sambalpur to receive Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E., who had been on a visit to that town. The meeting was presided over by Pandit Dharanidhar Misra, at whose request Mr. Das delivered an interesting and instructive address on the service of the motherland. There were other speeches delivered by other members present at the meeting. Distribution of flowers, *pan* and *attar* brought the proceedings of the meeting to a close.

UTKALDARPAN.

79. The same paper states that the *Sital Sasthi* festival at Sambalpur passed off quietly and successfully without any hitch or hinderance. It was attended by a large number of men and women, who took great pleasure in its celebration. The streets were so overcrowded that there was hardly any room for passage. The images of gods and goddesses, with all their paraphernalia, were beautiful to look at. The music, interspersed with hymns, was edifying.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 9th, 1906.

80. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 9th June states that the *Snanjatra* in Puri was celebrated with due *éclat*, though the number of pilgrims and visitors was very small. It is estimated that about 7,000 persons were present at the festival, and that this small attendance was due to the distress that at present prevails in different parts of India.

UTKALDIPIKA.

81. The same paper gives an account of a widow-marriage in the Cuttack district, celebrated according to Hindu rites, which it calls the first widow-marriage in Orissa. A young girl in Mahanga in Cuttack belonging to the Kayastha caste, whose ancestors migrated to Orissa from Bihar, lost her husband and was re-married to a young man of her own caste brought down from Sahajanpur to Orissa through the exertions of her father and the Secretary of the Widow-Marriage Association in Sahajanpur. The writer points out that though there were 50 Hindu widow-marriages under the law introduced by the late Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar in Bengal within the last 50 years, there were 180 such marriages in Bihar and Upper India within a much smaller period. This leads to the conclusion that the Hindustanis are more liberal in introducing social reforms than the Bengalis.

UTKALDIPIKA.

82. The same paper thanks Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E., and other gentlemen of the Cuttack station, who sent in their contributions to the relief fund started on behalf of the distressed people who had been rendered homeless by the fire that consumed many houses in Cuttack and that was reported last week. The writer regrets that the Rani of Darpan could not contribute her promised donation as the District Judge of Cuttack, who manages her property through a receiver, refused to grant her prayer.

The Gorakshini Sabha in Cuttack also rendered splendid services to the poor men and women by taking charge of their cows at the cost of the Sabha. Mr. Haji Yusuf Ahamed Mulla placed clothes at the disposal of the relief committee for distribution to the poor. Babus Madan Mohan Patnaik, Gajendra Narayan Dutta, Chandicharan Maitra, Paramananda Bose, Ananda Chandra Das, and Banamali Chowdhri, who formed the members of the relief committee, deserved well of the public by spending the relief money to the best advantage.

83. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 9th June mourns the death of Pandit Bhagirathi Pattajosi, a known gentleman of Angul, who was an important member of the

A death mourned.

Angul Brahman Samiti and who had rendered many useful services to the Angul people in various ways.

84. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 9th June states that a resident of Bamra was killed by a fall from a date tree and that another native of that State was killed by snake-bite.

A death from snake-bite and an accident in Bamra.

85. The same paper states that Kamal Lochan Nanda, a Brahmin resident of Basudevpur in Bamra, while travelling from Dhenkanal to Bamra, felt thirsty on the way,

Death due to thirst in Bamra.

and not finding any drinking-water to quench his thirst, fell down enseless under a tree and died.

86. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 9th June learns from its contemporary of the *Hitaishini* that men of low caste in Angul kill cattle by poisoning them secretly. The

Poisoning of cattle in Angul.

writer therefore requests the Superintendent of Police, Angul, to take immediate steps to stop this crime.

87. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 9th June learns from one of its correspondents that a great fire broke out in village Maa in thana Dhamnagar in district Balasore, consuming a large number of houses, including all

The residents of Maa in Bhadrak need immediate help.

moveables therein. A married daughter of Ram Majhi, a resident of the village, was burnt to death, while a cow, belonging to another resident, died in the same way. The villagers are now rendered helpless and are in great distress. Chaudhuri Bhagbat Prasad Samantrai Mahapatra, the zamindar of the village, who practises as a pleader in the Bhadrak Civil Court, should be induced to help his tenants, who are thus rendered homeless and helpless.

88. The same paper says that the public of Jajpur held a meeting in the premises of the Jajpur Higher English School under the presidency of Mr. Kastagiri, the Subdivisional

Fire in Ganapatipur followed by the liberality of the Jajpur public.

Officer of that place, with the object of raising subscriptions and donations for the help of the residents of Ganapatipur village in that subdivision, whose houses were destroyed by fire.

89. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 9th June states that high prices ruling in Midnapore, the Municipality of that place was compelled to increase the salaries

Distress in Midnapore.

of its servants drawing less than Rs. 16 per month by one rupee per mensem for a temporary period. The writer therefore advises other authorities in that district to follow the example of the Municipality.

90. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 6th June states that the prices of paddy and rice in that town are rising high, and that they will be still higher a few weeks

Distress in Balasore.

after. The poor, the day-labourers, and those that have a large family to support, are therefore in great distress.

91. The Puri correspondent of the same paper states that drinking-water is scarce in many places in that district.

ant of drinking-water in Puri.

92. The same paper learns from its contemporary the *Prajabandhu* that the residents of Rorang and Andhari in the Puri district have applied to the Magistrate of that

Distress in the Puri district.

district for relief, as they are in great distress.

GARJATBASINI,
June 9th, 1906.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
June 9th, 1906.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI.

GARJATBASINI,
June 9th, 1906.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 9th, 1906.

UTKALDIPIKA.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
June 9th, 1906.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.
June 6th, 1906.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

GARJATBASINI,
June 9th, 1906.

93. The Barpali correspondent of the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 9th June states that mangoes are available in large quantities in that State and that they will be scarce a few days after.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 9th, 1906.

94. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 9th June is glad to find that the Municipality of Cuttack has taken steps to repair the Gangamandir tank in that town, as the tank supplies water to the residents in the centre of the Cuttack town.

UTKALDIPIKA.

95. The Banguari correspondent of the same paper states that the residents of that village and their neighbours want a sluice across the Kuakhai embankment to convey river-water to their paddy fields in times of drought, the repairs of the village road passing through the village from the Grand Trunk Road to the Kuakhai embankment, a small embankment along the drain of the Grand Trunk Road enabling the rain-water to accumulate in the paddy fields, and a good tank in a suitable place in the village to supply water to men and animals in the villages all round. The correspondent suggests that the tahsildar of Kothdes, under whose jurisdiction the villages lie, may help the villagers by removing some of the wants complained of above.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
June 9th, 1906.

96. The Barpali correspondent of the *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 9th June states that the biting of mosquitoes there at night has become so serious as to induce sleeplessness, followed by various ailments.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
June 6th, 1906.

97. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 6th June regrets to find that small-pox and cholera still prevail in the Balasore district.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 9th, 1906.

98. The Jajpur correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 9th June states that cholera has broken out in the Sargara pargana of that subdivision and that it is attributed to the use of bad drinking-water in that pargana.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
June 6th, 1906.

99. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 6th June states that the foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest killed so many bullocks in the Balasore district that the poorer classes of agriculturists find it hard to replace them by new bullocks. Thus they find it hard to cultivate their lands.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
June 9th, 1906.

100. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 9th June states that rain is urgently needed in that State. The agricultural community there is very uneasy.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,

The weather in Barpali.

101. The Barpali correspondent of the same paper speaks in a similar way.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,

102. The Rairakhole correspondent of the same paper states that there is no rain and that food has already become scarce in that State.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
June 6th, 1906.

103. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 6th June states that the temperature is very high and that men cannot sleep at night. Though the month of *Jyestha* is past, there is no rain. The agriculturists are very uneasy. It is further stated that it rained one day in Balasore in the last week.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
June 7th, 1906.

- The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 7th June states that there was good rain in Balasore and that it did great good to the sugarcane and jute in that district.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 9th, 1906.

104. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 9th June states that there were a few showers of rain in the past week in the Cuttack district. More rain is required soon. The paddy seedlings are consequently very weak.

There were a few showers of rain in Kendupatna in the last week and they have done great good to the people.

105. The Puri correspondent of the same paper states that the temperature is high and the heat unbearable. Tanks, wells and other sources of water-supply are nearly dry. This no doubt aggravates the situation.

UTKALDIPIKA.

106. The Jajpur correspondent of the same paper states that there was a good shower of rain, accompanied by a thunder-storm, in the last week in that subdivison, and that it has helped agricultural operations.

UTKALDIPIKA.

ASSAM PAPERS.

107. The *Paridarsak* [Sylhet] of the 13th June suggests to the authorities of the Assam-Bengal Railway the desirability of constructing a waiting-room at Baralekha station.

A railway complaint.

PARIDARSAK,
June 13th, 1906

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 23rd June 1906.

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REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 23rd June 1906.

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II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

827. In India, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, instances are not wanting to show how Judges do not scruple to consign their fellow-creatures to the gallows—not singly, but in

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
7th June 1906.

Administration of justice. batches! It appears that the Sessions Judge of Umballa sentenced three men to be hanged and two other persons to life-transportation on a charge of murdering a boy. On appeal to the Chief Court all the accused were acquitted, and the Hon'ble Judges severely reprimanded the Sessions Judge for admitting as evidence confessions which were on the face of them inadmissible. Nevertheless, the Sessions Judge continues to hold a responsible position, which entitles him to pass sentences affecting the life and liberty of his fellow-creatures. A similar case hails from Madras. Six persons were sent up by the police on a charge of murder and were convicted by the Sessions Judge of South Malabar, four being sentenced to death and two to life-transportation. The accused appealed to the High Court and were acquitted.

828. The *Hindoo Patriot* writes that the disclosures that have been made by the pleaders of the Calcutta Police Court regarding the obstructive and objectionable conduct of the Court Inspector, call for prompt inquiry. He is charged with securing convictions by such means as getting defended cases transferred to Honorary Magistrates who are his intimate friends and susceptible to his influence. It is for this reason that certain Honorary Magistrates are invited to sit as often as a hundred times, while better qualified men are studiously overlooked. If true, this amounts to a public scandal and points to the urgency of reforming the procedure adopted by the Police Court. The functions of the several Courts officers, particularly the Registrar and the Court Inspectors, should be clearly defined, and the Chief Magistrate should be held responsible for the rules being strictly observed, in order to guard against future trouble.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
11th June 1906.

829. The *Indian Mirror* refers with regret to the muddle in the Calcutta Police Court, and states that this unsatisfactory state of things only came about after the importation of a Civilian Chief Presidency Magistrate, who introduced practices prevailing in backward mufassal Courts and sought to reduce a metropolitan Criminal Court to the level of a district Criminal Court. The result has been that the police are all-powerful and the Bar completely powerless. Pleaders are insulted with impunity by the meanest constable. Such a state of things is obviously most undesirable and demands immediate attention.

INDIAN MIRROR,
13th May 1906.

Ibid. tion of a Civilian Chief Presidency Magistrate, who introduced practices prevailing in backward mufassal Courts and sought to reduce a metropolitan Criminal Court to the level of a district Criminal Court. The result has been that the police are all-powerful and the Bar completely powerless. Pleaders are insulted with impunity by the meanest constable. Such a state of things is obviously most undesirable and demands immediate attention.

830. The *Bengalee* writes that the resolutions lately forwarded to the Chief Presidency Magistrate by the Police Court Bar and the alleged grounds on which these resolutions are based, are revelations which demand the immediate attention of the Chief Presidency Magistrate and the Government. The individual responsible for the state of things complained of is clearly the Court Inspector. Those Honorary Magistrates who are his intimate friends are invited to sit as often as a hundred times in the year. Their names, it is said, are suggested by the Court Inspector and the Magistrate blindly accepts the suggestions. The result is that the number of convictions is cent. per cent. This is a very serious matter and demands investigation. The present Court Inspector does not seem a very suitable man for the post he occupies in view of his well-known impecuniosity.

BENGALÉE,
14th June 1906.

831. The *Bengalee* draws the attention of Government to the fact that the public are anxious to know what action is being taken on the representation that has been made by the members of the Police Court Bar against the Court Inspector. If all that has been said is true, a searching inquiry should lead to some startling facts being unearthed.

BENGALÉE,
16th June 1906.

832. The *Bengalee* makes further disclosures regarding the financial embarrassment of the Court Inspector attached to the Chief Magistrate's Court. In December 1904, he was conducting the prosecution in a case of forgery and cheating instituted

BENGALÉE,
17th June 1906.

by Messrs. Kaloo Babu Lall Chand, Bankers, against Inderchand and others, and when the case was *sub judice* he borrowed Rs. 500 from Babu Joy Kissen, the proprietor of the complainant firm. The journal reproduces the I. O. U. and the number of the 500-rupee note, and understands that a suit has been filed in the Small Cause Court for the recovery of principal and interest. The *Bengalee* repeats that it would be an outrage on public decency to permit such a man to continue to hold a post in which he must encounter serious and constant temptation.

BENGALUR,
19th June 1906.

833. The *Bengalee* writes that the *Pioneer* has published a palpably absurd version of the Dharampur shooting case which recently formed the subject of interpellation in the House of Commons. It is alleged that the accused, Private Wilts, and his comrade were travelling from Kalka to Kasauli. At Dharampur toll was demanded of them, but they refused to pay it as they had been exempted, whereupon Private Wilts "had his rifle snatched from him." Thus the *Pioneer* would have an intelligent public believe that a mild "native" *chopras* used force towards two British soldiers and went so far as to snatch away the gun belonging to one of them! Tommy, however, soon recovered his rifle and went on his way, when suddenly he is intercepted by a mob. Was this the work of a toll-bar *chopras* or a strategist? A disturbance followed, in which Wilt's comrade was injured by a blow on the head by a *lathi*. Wilts immediately "loaded his rifle and, in the course of the scuffle, the *chopras* was shot through the breast." This is the *Pioneer's* story and it is wildly improbable. The *chopras*, however, recovered and Wilts was prosecuted under section 307, Indian Penal Code. Strangely enough, the District Magistrate of Umballa altered the charge to one under section 338, Indian Penal Code, but as even under that section he could not avoid punishing the accused, he threw out a hint to the latter to compromise the case, which was done! The consensus of opinion is that the trial was a judicial farce.

(d)—Education.

INDIAN MIRROR
13th June 1906.

834. The *Indian Mirror* writes that the University regulations relating to Law examinations have come in for a large share of the Special Committee's attention, and it is understood that stringent rules are being framed to rectify certain defects in the existing system. 'It is proposed,' says the journal, 'to insist on a number of written exercises as a necessary requisite for permission to appear at the examination.' If the exercise test is recognised as an excellent means of training the student, would it not be as well to substitute it for the cumbrous, antiquated system of examination which is often a mere game of chance? The alternative proposal to make the student pass two examinations before he can obtain his degree is rejected, as it introduces a system worse than the one it seeks to remedy.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
19th June 1906.

835. With a view to making Sir B. Fuller hang his head in shame, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* reverts to the 'disgraceful episode' connected with the expulsion of the Rangpur students, and shows how wantonly they were dealt with by the executive with the aid of the educational authorities. It is but bare justice, therefore, that all the students of the new province who have been so dealt with should be "unconditionally reinstated." The Secretary of State made a definite pronouncement to this effect, but it appears that in this matter also Sir B. Fuller has ignored Mr. Morley's instructions by offering to reinstate the students of the Rangpur and Dacca Colleges only. What about the students of the Bonari-para School? The attention both of the Viceroy and Mr. Morley should be drawn to this distinct violation of orders.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th June 1906.

836. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* publishes the official papers relating to the threatened supersession of the Pabna Municipality, and asks if it is reasonable for the Government to adopt such a course merely because there had been an unavoidable

delay in carrying out certain instructions of the Sanitary Commissioner? Would the authorities have exhibited this 'imperial impatience' if the Pabna Municipality had made a 'long salaam' to Sir B. Fuller when he visited that town? If His Honour really officialises the Municipality, how would it be possible for him to persuade the public that he has not been actuated by personal motives? Mr. Marindin, the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division, was opposed to officialising this body as it would create a scandal. The question should also be considered from another standpoint. It was to relieve District Officers that the management of Municipalities was made over to the representatives of the people. If the management is re-transferred to the District Officer, it will not only add to his work, but give the *swadeshi* cause some more advocates. The officialisation of the Municipality is thus a matter of supreme indifference to the people.

837. The *Hindoo Patriot* writes that Government will be quite justified in superseding the Pabna Municipality for its persistent neglect of a matter which was seriously affecting the sanitation of the town. It was for a similar reason that the Santipur Municipality was superseded. The inaction of the Municipal Commissioners of Pabna has been most reprehensible, and until they realise their responsibilities they are unfit to have control of the Municipality.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
16th June 1906.

(h)—General.

838. The *Indian Mirror* is surprised that Sir B. Fuller has not thought fit to mend his ways in spite of Mr. Morley's reproofs. Insensate orders and circulars affecting the freedom of the people continue to be issued and police oppression is rampant. Peremptory orders have been issued by beat of drum that if five or more persons pass through the street talking or laughing loudly they shall be liable to arrest! Are the officials pleased to be facetious or serious? If the latter, they have run amok and are making fools of themselves. Sir B. Fuller should be brought to book for this glaring disobedience of orders.

INDIAN MIRROR,
10th June 1906.

839. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the restrictions imposed on public meetings and processions "by previous orders" have, as Mr. Morley informed Sir Henry Cotton, been removed, but is the former aware that other circulars have been promulgated to do the work of the cancelled circulars? For instance, Police Superintendents in the new province are issuing notices to the effect that persons wishing to hold public meetings or processions must apply for licenses. In the first place, police officers have not the power to issue circulars, and secondly, the notice referred to above is illegal; but despite these serious irregularities meetings and processions—in some cases religious processions—have been prohibited and the processionists dragged to the police-station, kept in custody, and released on furnishing large sureties. Thus the orders of the Secretary of State for India have been openly disobeyed, and the impression created is that Sir B. Fuller and his subordinates possess irresistible power and are the masters of the situation.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
13th June 1906.

840. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* makes an announcement to the effect that Babu Manick Chandra Barhwa, a leading resident and Municipal Commissioner of Gauhati, has fallen under the severe displeasure of Sir B. Fuller, because he was not present at the presentation of the municipal address. This the Lieutenant-Governor characterised as a "serious discourtesy," and the punishment inflicted on Babu Manik Chandra is that he will not in future be allowed to wait upon the Lieutenant-Governor or any of the district officials! It is earnestly hoped that this terrible sentence will not cause the sun to cease to shine or bring about any other calamity of a like nature. Would that all the leading men of the province were similarly punished by Sir B. Fuller!

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
15th June 1906.

841. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* urges several grounds in support of the London Indian Society's resolution calling upon the Secretary of State to recall Sir B. Fuller. The British Raj has always been regarded as a beneficent protectorate, but Sir B. Fuller has reduced it to the level of a savage despotism, the chief attribute

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
15th June 1906.

of which is brute force. Then, again, he has sullied the nobility of the British character by attacking unarmed and defenceless men. He has been fomenting intrigue—an act unworthy of an Englishman, much less an enlightened ruler—and last, but not least, he has shattered popular confidence in British justice. In short, his acts have been undermining the Empire and his services should no longer be entertained.

BENGALER,
14th June 1906.

842. The *Bengalee* affirms that the Government circular on the subject of the larger employment of Muhammadans in the new province, irrespective of their merits, is a blunder. The circular urges that whereas the Muhammadans form two-thirds of the population, they hold less than one-sixth of the ministerial appointments. Who is to blame for this? No one but the Muhammadans themselves, for while the Hindus adapted themselves to changed conditions, set themselves to acquire a knowledge of English—the passport to employment under Government—the Muhammadans were apathetic and were left back. Further, political considerations prompted the Government to encourage the Hindus and discourage the Muhammadans. The former, however, welcome the prospect of their Muhammadan brethren obtaining their legitimate share of appointments, but public opinion is opposed to the principle that a Muhammadan should get an appointment because he is a Muhammadan.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
14th June 1906.

843. The *Hindoo Patriot* considers that the reasons urged for the reservation of ministerial posts for Muhammadans are unconvincing and unsatisfactory. No fixed principle has been followed in the Government circular. Once the population test is urged and again it is argued that, judged by the "literacy" standard, the Muhammadans hold a disproportionately small share of appointments. It is finally but reluctantly admitted that the Muhammadan community is very backward if English education is taken as the criterion. The letter, however, adds that the members of that community have been turning to English education in increasing numbers, and as soon as they are qualified, they will receive preferment despite the superior qualifications of the Hindu. What, then, is the standard that has been set up? It is not that a Muhammadan will receive preference because he is a Muhammadan?

BENGALER,
15th June 1906.

844. In its next issue the *Bengalee* suggests that the safest course for the Government to adopt is to make the Muhammadans in each district sit to a competitive test, and bestow appointments on the fittest among them. A system of undiluted nomination cannot fail to lead to favouritism, which in turn must lead to discontent and heart-burning among the Muhammadans. Government would thus defeat the very object it has in view.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
15th June 1906.

845. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that this circular letter is but another manifestation of the traditional policy of the English—divide and rule. The argument that Hindus monopolise Government appointments and exclude all save their caste-men and relatives is shallow and unreal. Is this not precisely what the Britisher does? John secures the chiefship of a certain department and he promptly expels a dozen or so competent Indians and imports as many 'John-lings'—all failures. But what is the reason of the Muhammadans being excluded from these ministerial appointments? Surely they are not the victims of a conspiracy? If they are, then the officials of the district are the conspirators. No, the real fact is that the Hindu is an excellent clerk and his services as such are sought. The Muhammadans, on the other hand, are not educated enough to be of service to Government and they accordingly hold fewer appointments than the Hindus. Sir B. Fuller is at liberty to buy over the Muhammadans by giving them as many appointments as he can, but he must doubtless realise that he cannot appease the entire community by this means. The vast majority therefore must continue to be discontented!

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
16th May 1906.

846. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* exhorts all Hindus and Muhammadans to condemn this circular, as its only object is to create ill-feeling and jealousy, by helping the Muhammadans not for themselves but to spite the Hindus. This is why the

latter cry down the circular and not because it confers a few more petty appointments on the Muhammadans. It is the *object* and not the *effect* of the circular that has aroused opposition.

Moreover, the Muhammadans should not consider that the millennium has arrived because a few subordinate posts have been offered to them. The circular is a bait, and if the Muhammadans swallow it, it will not only prevent them from acquiring higher education, but also alienate them from the Hindus. When once they have been ensnared into an isolated position their massacre is an easy matter.

847. The *Bengalee* commends, to the favourable consideration of the Director-General of Telegraphs, the representation

BENGALUR,
16th May 1906.

A mail from the Check Office.

of the clerks employed in the Check Office of the Telegraph Department complaining that they are overworked, etc. The journal points out that as the work has increased, the staff should be proportionately increased, instead of futile attempts being made to pull up arrears and carry on current work when the Department is undermanned.

848. The *Bengalee* draws prominent attention to the fact that Maulvi

BENGALUR,
16th June 1906.

A reward for loyalty.

A. K. Fazlul Haq, M.A., B.L., a briefless pleader of Barisal, who has of late, in a series of letters to the *Englishman*, been enthusiastically supporting Sir B. Fuller's policy and measures, has not had to wait long for his reward. A recent issue of the *Assam Gazette* notifies his appointment as a Deputy Collector. Every labourer is worthy of his hire, but it seems doubtful policy to appoint so strong a partisan to so responsible a post and one connected with the administration of justice, as he is bound to enter upon his public duties with a biased mind. This system of rewarding partisans can hardly be termed decent.

III.—LEGISLATION.

849. The *Weekly Chronicle* writes that the feeling prevalent in the

WEEKLY CHRONICLE,
6th June 1906.

The new Council.

new province is one of opposition to the people or their leaders taking any part whatsoever in the forthcoming elections to the Legislative Council of Eastern Bengal and Assam. It is very likely, therefore, that His Honour will have the ineffable bliss of presiding over a Council composed of officials and their creatures. It would indeed be a revivifying sight to Sir B. Fuller, probably beaming with the pride of Punch, surrounded by a set of councillors who would dance to any tune that gave him solace.

850. There is no doubt, writes the *Bengalee*, that Sir B. Fuller regards

BENGALUR,
19th June 1906.

Sir B. Fuller and his Legislative Council.

the law of the land with the greatest contempt as the following case will show. The Government of India has laid down that only associations of landholders may nominate members for the local Councils. Why then has the Dacca Muhammadan Association, which in no sense is an association of landholders, been asked to nominate a member to the new Council? Under the rules of the Dacca Association, any Muhammadan taking an interest in the welfare of the community can be enrolled a member of the Association on payment of an annual subscription of one rupee. Surely this is not a landholders' association? This difficulty, the journal understands, was brought to the notice of Government, but was surmounted in the usual Fullerman style—the rules of the Association were amended so as to permit only those members who were landholders to vote for the election of a member to the Council. This subterfuge does not meet the difficulty at all, for the simple reason that it does not convert the Association into an "association of landholders."

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

851. The *Indian Nation* deplors the fact that while its countrymen

INDIAN NATION,
11th June 1906.

Famine and the leaders.

are seeking to prostrate England with the aid of the boycott movement, their brethren are dying by thousands of famine. *Swadeshi* meetings and fine oratory continue to be the order of the day. This indifference to actual misery, accompanied by hysterical demonstrations of public spirit, 'is a travesty of patriotism which would be ridiculous were it not heartless. *Bande Mataram* is a mockery

and public spirit a farce if the real duties of life can be evaded or ignored under the pretence of serving the country.' There is a famine in the land, and the leaders have now a splendid opportunity of showing that they can "stand on their own legs," by helping their distressed fellow-countrymen. Deeds are wanted—not words!

BENGALUR,
15th June 1906.

852. The *Bengales* regards the situation in Faridpur as grave. In not a few villages the want of food is being keenly felt, and unless prompt relief measures are taken, loss of life is inevitable. Some twelve years ago, when the district was threatened with scarcity, the people obtained a grant of Rs. 20,000 from the Bengal Government. This Government has now no jurisdiction in Faridpur, and the strong Government of Sir B. Fuller cannot be expected to be so weak as to extend to its subjects ordinary human sympathy. A Relief Committee has accordingly been formed by the leaders, and an appeal has been made to the public.

853. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Tippera correspondent writes that although the authorities do not choose to recognise the fact, there is no doubt that famine is raging in

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
19th June 1906.

Famine in Tippera.

the interior of the district. Thousands are struggling to live by taking one meal a day or one meal every alternate day—this meal consisting of the boiled roots of plantains. Others have taken to plunder as a means of living, and the Government has deputed a police force to put a stop to this lawlessness. Is this the most effective way of relieving the prevailing distress? The more humane course would be to feed a starving and desperate people. The writer makes an earnest appeal to the authorities to act before it is too late.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
9th June 1906.

854. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* sounds a note of warning as regards Madaripur, and says that if relief is not immediately forthcoming the subdivision will fall into the iron

grip of famine. The misfortune is that Mr. Briscoe is at the head of affairs, and instead of looking to the safety of the people, he is wasting both time and energy in hunting schoolboys. Where is the wonder, then, that the people should be threatened with starvation? These apathetic officials will not have a very comfortable time of it when people actually begin to die, for the stench from rotting bodies must prove disagreeable.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
20th June 1906.

855. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* observes that in former times, it was the good fortune of Bengal and notably Backergunge, the "granary of Bengal," to be able to supply the

other Indian provinces with food-grains in times of scarcity, but the current year has seen a change in the old order of things, and flourishing Bengal is in dire need of supplies herself. The eastern districts especially are on the verge of famine, but Sir B. Fuller is supremely indifferent to the popular suffering. Thousands and tens of thousands are thus doomed to death, and their bones must whiten the land over which he rules. But are not the majority of these doomed creatures Musalmans? Is this the way in which he shows his regard for his favourite wife? This is the time for the Muhammadans to test the affection of their so-called patron. Let them cry out that they want life—not a few Sub-Inspectorships of Police. The Government is bound to carry out its sacred promise "to save every man, woman, or child from starvation."

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

WEEKLY CHRONICLE,
30th May 1906.

856. The *Weekly Chronicle* has no hesitation in saying that the Musalmans in this country took an anxious interest in the dispute between Great Britain and the Sultan.

The Musalmans and the affair with Turkey.

Blood is thicker than water, and it is possible that they would have been openly demonstrative had not a sense of loyalty to Great Britain restrained them. There seems, however, little room for doubt that in the event of hostilities breaking out between the two powers, the greatest possible strain will be put on Muhammadan loyalty.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
7th June 1906.

857. Being convinced that partition will not be undone, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* considers the question whether the people should abide by this decision or struggle further.

How to face the situation.

By accepting partition without demur the people would commit the most fatal blunder possible, inasmuch as such a course would pave the way for the complete estrangement of East and West Bengal. It is to the interests of the people of

both halves, therefore, to remain united even though territorially separated, for united, they stand; divided, they fall. Agitation may not upset partition, but it will undoubtedly have the effect of keeping Bengal united. This is the object of the present agitation. Then, again, if the people cease to struggle from sheer despair, they render future agitation impossible. The journal characterises the present constitutional methods as unsuitable, and counsels the adoption of other and more effective methods.

858. The *Indian Mirror* thinks it extremely fortunate that the Prince of Wales should have visited India at a time when the country was seething with discontent owing to Lord Curzon's tactlessness. His Royal Highness has with great ability laid bare the defects in the Indian administration, and unless steps are taken to remedy them, disastrous consequences are bound to result. The country wants statesmen—practical statesmen—at this juncture. Professions of sympathy will not do. The people want deeds, not words.

INDIAN MIRROR,
10th June 1906.

859. The *Indian Mirror* writes that the 10th of May—the day on which representation was given to the people of Russia—should serve as a beacon to those nations who are still plunged in political darkness. The Russians, be it remembered, extorted this boon from their Government after a prolonged and bloody struggle. They were the victors. The autocracy was vanquished. This should afford the Indians encouragement and make them set about numbering the days of bureaucracy in India. They must have self-government, no matter what the price they pay.

INDIAN MIRROR,
13th June 1906.

860. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* invites the attention of Government to the ill-feeling existing between the Hindus and Muhammadans at Magura, Jessore, and is surprised at this state of things in view of the amity that existed between the two communities only a few months back. The Musalmans have commenced slaughtering kine in conspicuous places, and matters assumed so grave an aspect that an Inspector of Police was deputed to enquire into the cause of the disaffection. A strong rumour is current that the present Subdivisional Officer is in some measure responsible for the prevailing anti-Hindu feeling. Will the Government be pleased to inquire into the matter?

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
13th June 1906.

861. The *Indian Mirror* writes that in view of the intense indignation prevailing in India and particularly in Bengal, the undoing of the partition and the recall of Sir B. Fuller would have been the wisest steps to take in order to allay popular discontent. But the present Secretary of State, although a keen statesman, has allowed petty considerations of prestige to override his discretion and the partition remains untouched merely because it is an "accomplished fact," and Sir B. Fuller continues in a position for which he is manifestly unfit. Sympathy is much spoken about, but does this sentiment play any practical part in the administration? None whatever. The nation must rely on its own endeavours to remedy the defects in the present system of government.

INDIAN MIRROR,
15th June 1906.

862. The *Bengalee* writes that it was Emerson who wrote how the brave Lovejoy gave his breast to the bullets of a mob for the right of free speech and opinions and died when it was better not to have lived. This same sentiment is prevalent in the Indian mind to-day, says the journal. The people know that political freedom can only be gained by the blood of martyrs, and they are prepared to pay the price. Tribulation has given them strength. What is more, they have ceased to have any respect for or confidence in their ignorant, despotic, and cowardly rulers, who have preferred falsehood to truth, deceit to straightforwardness, and who have so far degraded themselves as to concoct false stories and uphold them by perjured testimony. This course of action, which is an unerring sign of inherent "weakness," they have been pleased to term 'policy,' but it is nothing better or worse than the trickeries of the gambling den. Look at the Rangpur and Madaripur cases; the Barisal outrage. Are not they a revelation of incompetency, cowardice, and immorality? Moral degradation has set in, and the people should benefit by the mistakes their rulers

BENGALIEE,
15th June 1906.

are bound to make under such conditions. Let them be patient, upright, and resolute, and the day is not far distant when they will be able to deal harder blows than they have received.

BENGALIAN,
16th June 1906.

863. The *Bengalee* writes that when Mr. Morley's attention was drawn to a shooting case in which the victim was an Indian and the offender a soldier, he remarked with charming naïveté that he had received no information on the subject, but that if the facts, as reported in the native press, were true, he would "immediately" call "earnest attention" to them. As the Secretary of State appears to be in blissful ignorance of all occurrences of which he should be fully cognizant, the *Patrika* suggests that he or one of his subordinates should attentively read the Indian newspapers. If Mr. Morley is going to rely exclusively on official channels for the receipt of information, he will know nothing and learn less.

BENGALIAN,
16th May 1906.

864. The *Bengalee* observes that since the present agitation is due primarily to the partition, and since the Secretary of State has signified his desire to allay the excitement, the only possible way in which this end can be achieved is by undoing partition. It is true that Sir B. Fuller has by his insane, blundering policy intensified this excitement. His removal from office would therefore be welcomed by the people, but it would not touch the root of the agitation, which must continue unabated, however sympathetic the policy. To profess sympathy for an injury inflicted on a subject race and not to remove that injury, is mean and discreditable.

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
16th June 1906.

865. Referring to the letter of "A.H.," dated the 8th instant, in which the writer remarks that "so long as history records the treacherous murder of Afzal by Sivaji, so long there will be no lasting and true friendship between the Hindus and the Muhammadans," the *Amrita Basar Patrika* denounces the resort to such tactics to place these two sects in opposite camps. It is impossible to say who was guilty of treachery first, Sivaji or Afzal, but this question is of little importance at a time when the Indians should unite before a common foe—a repressive policy. Let them forgive and forget. Let the dead past bury its dead. This should be the prevalent spirit. As the Sivaji festival was inaugurated by the Hindus, so the Akbar festival should be inaugurated by the Muhammadans. The Hindus guarantee them the fullest sympathy and support. Here, then, is common ground on which the two races can unite.

BENGALIAN,
17th June 1906.

866. The *Bengalee* writes that the brilliant success of two Indians in the most difficult examination in the world presents an object-lesson, the importance of which cannot be overestimated. A community which is capable of producing men who can compete with the best intellects of the United Kingdom, is not one to be despised. But what is its position really? Politically it is scarcely removed from a condition of serfdom. It has no voice in the administration and is maliciously pronounced to be unfit for high administrative posts. How long can this state of things continue with a highly intellectual and cultured community? This is unnatural, but in the end nature must assert itself.

BENGALIAN,
10th June 1906.

867. The *Bengalee* characterises the writer of the anonymous anti-Babu articles appearing in the *Indian Daily News* as a 'pitiful cur,' who by his very animus is convincing the Bengalis that they are growing in importance. The writer exultingly quotes the opinion of the late G. W. Stevens regarding the character of the Babu. Does not the publican always cite the toper as his witness? This opinion of Mr. G. W. Stevens is summed up in the following lines:—"Let disloyalty talk and write as it will. But the moment it begins to act, shoot and spare not." When the Bengalis "begin to act," they will return blow for blow and shot for shot.

BENGALIAN,
30th May 1906.

868. The *Bengalee* writes that the agitation set up by the *Pioneer* in connection with the appointment of Sir Harvey Adamson as Home Member has aroused suspicion in the public mind. The attitude of the Indian public in regard to such questions is usually one of profound indifference, but when

the *Pioneer* protests against an appointment that has been made, the people begin to suspect that from their point of view it must be a desirable one. This suspicion is confirmed when that journal gives its reasons for protesting. It argues that "there is a special necessity for the presence in Council of a Member familiar with the methods and objects of the advanced school of native politicians." Is Mr. Risley familiar with the aspirations and objects of Indian politicians who are the representatives of the people? His utter want of sympathy does not show that he is, and it would be fatal to the present policy of allaying excitement, to entrust Mr. Risley, the arch-enemy of the Bengalis, with greater power than he already possesses.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.
OF POLICE, L. P.,
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 23rd June, 1906.

F. C. DALY,
Persl. Asst. to the Insp.-Genl. of Police, L. P.

